



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 400104

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 04/05/2004
Inspector Name Ingrid Szczerban

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care
Setting Name HGS Nursery
Setting Address Arthurs Avenue
Harrogate
North Yorkshire
HG2 0DZ

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The partnership of Susan and Andrew Seeber

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Susan and Andrew Seeber
Address Harrogate Grammar School Nursery
Arthurs Avenue
Harrogate
North Yorkshire
HG2 0DZ

ABOUT THE INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality and standard of day care. When making judgements, inspectors have regard to how well the provider meets the National Standards for under Eights Day Care and Childminding. A list of these is attached. The report identifies strengths and areas for improvement.

This inspection report must be made available to all parents.

Information about the setting

HGS Nursery opened in 1990. It operates from a single-storey, portable unit, located in the grounds of Harrogate Grammar School. There are 5 rooms used by children and an outside play area is available. The nursery serves the local community and further a field. There are currently 60 children on roll. This includes fifteen funded 3 year olds and four funded 4 year olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. There are currently no children with special needs, or children who speak English as an additional language, attending. The nursery opens five days a week, all year round, from 08:00-18:00. Twelve full time and one part time staff, are employed. Three quarters of the staff are qualified to NVQ level 3, the other staff have either attained or are working towards NVQ level 2. The nursery receives support from a teacher from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP). They have recently achieved the 'Quality Counts' accreditation, awarded by the National Private Day Nurseries Association.

How good is the Day Care?

HGS Nursery provides satisfactory care for children. Documentation is well-ordered, accurate and mainly, up to date. Accident and medication records are meticulously kept. There are good procedures in place for the induction of new staff. Staff training and development is encouraged. Adequate use is made of the space available and the premises are clean and well-maintained. There are sufficient toys and equipment for children and the furniture mostly, seems suitable. The resources include all aspects of equality of opportunity. Most toys are easily accessed by children, many being stored at child-height.

Staff have a good awareness of safety issues both inside and outdoors. Good hygiene routines are followed and healthy meals and snacks are provided for children. Staff have satisfactory knowledge of child protection issues.

The range and balance of activities provided is varied and appropriate for the ages of the children. Plans of activities cover all learning areas of development. A photographic record shows children having fun, learning through play. The care of babies and tweenies is good. Mostly, staff are fully engaged with the children. Generally, appropriate strategies are used to manage children's behaviour.

Relationships with parents are positive. Staff give daily verbal feed back to parents, children's development records can be freely accessed by parents and are shared

with them at parent evenings. Parents are given an information brochure, there is a noticeboard and newsletters are produced for parents.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection it was agreed that; laundry facilities be made inaccessible to children, parents consent be sought to give medication, provide information to parents about activities and that contact numbers to report child protection issues be in place.

Safety in the children's bathroom has been improved by boxing-in the washer and drier.

Procedures for giving medicine to children, have been improved, by keeping prior written parental permission.

The sharing of information about activities, with parents, has been improved. Parents are now able to see weekly plans displayed in the playrooms.

The names and contact numbers of the local area child protection team are now available in the operational plan. Thereby, improving staff's ability, to meet all the welfare needs of the children.

What is being done well?

- There are good procedures in place for the induction of new staff. As well as the written routines to follow, there are photographs, showing how to store items correctly, how hygiene routines are followed and other training issues. All staff sign to say they have read and understood all the written policies and procedures.
- Good hygiene routines are followed. Staff remind children to wash their hands and to dry them well. All surfaces to be used at lunchtime are wiped down beforehand, care is taken to sterilise all equipment used by babies and to provide separate bed linen for each child. These routines help to protect children from catching any infections.
- Healthy meals and snacks are provided. Many meals are cooked from scratch with fresh ingredients and fresh fruit is given every day. This helps children to develop good eating habits and emphasises the importance of a nutritious, and balanced diet.
- Accident and medication records, are meticulously kept. All necessary written parental permissions are kept and each entry is countersigned by parents.

What needs to be improved?

- the quality of the lunchtime routine, followed with the older children
- the arrangements for using the moulded plastic children's chairs

- the frequency of fire drills
- the strategies used to manage children's behaviour
- the details in procedures

Outcome of the inspection

Satisfactory

CONDITIONS OF REGISTRATION

All registered persons must comply with all conditions of registration included on his/her certificate of registration.

As a result of this inspection conditions of registration have been imposed / varied / removed and a new certificate of registration will be issued.

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE NEXT?

The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection

Std	Recommendation
3	Review and develop the lunchtime routine with older children to fully engage with children and to teach table etiquette.
5	Conduct a risk assessment of the plastic chairs used by children.
6	Increase the frequency of fire drills.
7	Develop the written procedure to include the requirement to inform Ofsted in the event of a serious accident.
11	Develop staff's awareness and understanding of effective ways to manage children's behaviour, taking into account their age and stage of development.
13	Develop the child protection procedure to include the action to be taken in the event of an allegation made regarding a member of staff.

SUMMARY OF NATIONAL STANDARDS

STANDARD 1 - SUITABLE PERSON

Adults providing day care, looking after children or having unsupervised access to them are suitable to do so.

STANDARD 2 - ORGANISATION

The registered person meets required adult: child ratios, ensures that training and qualifications requirements are met and organises space and resources to meet the children's needs effectively.

STANDARD 3 - CARE, LEARNING AND PLAY

The registered person meets children's individual needs and promotes their welfare. They plan and provide activities and play opportunities to develop children's emotional, physical, social and intellectual capabilities.

STANDARD 4 - PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

The premises are safe, secure and suitable for their purpose. They provide adequate space in an appropriate location, are welcoming to children and offer access to the necessary facilities for a range of activities which promote their development.

STANDARD 5 - EQUIPMENT

Furniture, equipment and toys are provided which are appropriate for their purpose and help to create an accessible and stimulating environment. They are of suitable design and condition, well maintained and conform to safety standards.

STANDARD 6 - SAFETY

The registered person takes positive steps to promote safety within the setting and on outings and ensures proper precautions are taken to prevent accidents.

STANDARD 7 - HEALTH

The registered person promotes the good health of children and takes positive steps to prevent the spread of infection and appropriate measures when they are ill.

STANDARD 8 - FOOD AND DRINK

Children are provided with regular drinks and food in adequate quantities for their needs. Food and drink is properly prepared, nutritious and complies with dietary and religious requirements.

STANDARD 9 - EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The registered person and staff actively promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice for all children.

STANDARD 10 - SPECIAL NEEDS (INCLUDING SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES)

The registered person is aware that some children may have special needs and is

proactive in ensuring that appropriate action can be taken when such a child is identified or admitted to the provision. Steps are taken to promote the welfare and development of the child within the setting in partnership with the parents and other relevant parties.

STANDARD 11 - BEHAVIOUR

Adults caring for children in the provision are able to manage a wide range of children's behaviour in a way which promotes their welfare and development.

STANDARD 12 - WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS AND CARERS

The registered person and staff work in partnership with parents and to meet the needs of the children, both individually and as a group. Information is shared.

STANDARD 13 - CHILD PROTECTION

The registered person complies with local child protection procedures approved by the Area Child Protection Committee and ensures that all adults working and looking after children in the provision are able to put the procedures into practice.

STANDARD 14 - DOCUMENTATION

Records, policies and procedures which are required for the efficient and safe management of the provision, or to promote the welfare, care and learning of children are maintained. Records about individual children are shared with the child's parent.